

FILE

Athens County Commissioners

06-222-EL-SLF

Lenny Eliason
Mark Sullivan
Bill Theisen



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Athens, Ohio 45701

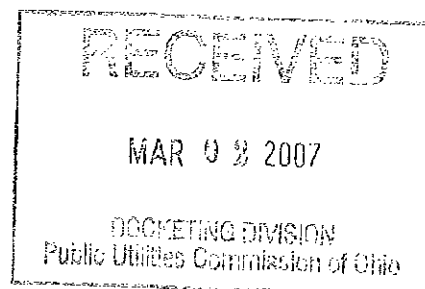
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February 28, 2007

PUCO
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215



Dear Members of the Ohio Public Utilities Commission,

The Athens County Board of Commissioners voted Feb. 27, 2007 to oppose American Electric Power's (AEP) proposed increase in rates to do what amounts to basic maintenance on their infrastructure. We're fully aware of the problems caused by the lack of basic maintenance that AEP has failed in performing adequately since deregulation, however, we don't believe a rate increase for such improvement is justified, nor warranted. In 2004 AEP had net profits of over a billion dollars and in 2005 (most recent data available) their net profits were in excess of \$814 million, while dispensing \$1.56 to its shareholders in dividends. For once we, and the public, would like to see PUCO stand up for the residents of Ohio that are having hard enough times making ends meet in today's so called global economy, which seems yet to have benefited Ohio residents in any significant positive way, and deny the rate increase request of AEP.

Sincerely,

William H. (Bill) Theisen, President

Lenny Eliason, Vice President

Mark Sullivan

cc Governor Ted Strickland

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